



Department of State

Syria
TELEGRAM

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAM-01
SAB-01 IO-10 AID-05 /081 W
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P R 281543Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3089
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 1180

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, SY
SUBJ: FURTHER SYRIAN REACTION TO SUSPENSION OF
SECRETARY'S MISSION

1. MARCH 27 AL-BAATH AND AL-THAWRAH REPORTED SECRETARY'S
PRESS CONFERENCE REMARKS CONCERNING US REASSESSMENT OF ITS
MIDDLE EAST POLICY. THEY NOTED HIS ASSERTION THAT REASS-
MENT NOT DIRECTED AGAINST ISRAEL AND THAT QUESTION OF REDUC-
ING AID TO ISRAEL OUT OF QUESTION.

2. JOURNALIST AMID KHULI IN MARCH 27 AL-BAATH AVERRED
ISRAELI MILITARY PREPARATIONS ON SYRIA, JORDANIAN AND
LEBANESE FRONTS WERE AIMED AT CONCEALING DIRECTION OF
PRINCIPAL ISRAELI MILITARY STRIKE, WHICH KHULI BELIEVES WILL
BE DIRECTED AGAINST LEBANON TO OCCUPY SOUTH LEBANON AND
EXTERMINATE PALESTINIANS.

3. ARCH 27 AL-THAWRAH REPORTED FIRST SYRIAN MINISTERIAL

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REACTIN TO SUSPENSION OF MISSION. FAWZI AL-KAYYALI, MINISTER OF CULTURE AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE AND SECRETARY GENERAL OF ARAB SOCIALIST UNION PARTY (NASSERIST), CLAIMED FOLLOWING POINTS (REPOTED IN DETAIL SEPTTEL) WERE "REAL GOALS" OF KISSINGER MISSION: A) ISOLATING EGYPT, B) ISOLATING ARABS INTERNATIONALLY C) PROVIDING TIME FOR ISRAEL REBUILD FORCES D) RUSHING ARAB SOLIDARITY, E) SEPARATING SYRIA FROM EGYPT, F) SOWING DISCORD BETWEEN ARAB MASSES AND THEIR LEADERS, G) SEPARATING ISSUE TERRITORIES OCCUPIED IN 1967 FROM ISSUE PALESTINIAN RIGHTS. KISSINGER FAILED ACHIEVE ANY ABOVE GOALS, INSTEAD ARABS PROVED TO AMERICAN PEOPLE DURING SECRETARY'S MISSION THAT THEY MADE EVERY SERIOUS EFFORT ACHIEVE PEACE, AND THAT STRUGGLE IN MIDDLE EAST NOT BETWEEN COMMUNISTS AND CAPITALISTS BUT BETWEEN ARABS AND OUTSIDERS WHO VIOLATE ARAB RIGHTS.

4. IN MARCH 28 AL-BAATH COLUMNIST MUHAMMAD MANSUR MADE STRIDENT ATTACK ON US FOR FAILING EXERCISE ENOUGH PRESSURE TO FORCE ISRAEL AGREE TO SETTLEMENT WITH ARABS. "A SIMPLE TELEPHONE CALL BY FORD OR EVEN KISSINGER ORDERING THEIR SUBORDINATES IN TEL AVIV TO WITHDRAW IMMEDIATELY FROM THE OCCUPIED ARAB LANDS AND TO RECOGNIZE PALESTINIAN RIGHTS WOULD HAVE BEEN SUFFICIENT." MANSUR CONCLUDED THAT "REALITY OF AFFAIR IS THAT AMERICA IS ONE WHICH OCCUPIES OUR LAND THROUGH ZIONIST MILITARY INSTITUTION WHICH IT CREATED IN PALESTINE, AND INSISTS ON CONTINUATION OF OCCUPATION AND EVEN WORKS FOR ADDITIONAL AGGRESSION AND OCCUPATION. COULD ANY ARAB CITIZEN DOUBT THAT AMERICA IS THE REAL ENEMY OF OUR ARAB PEOPLE AND THEIR ASPIRATIONS?"

5. AL-BAATH COLUMNIST SAMIR ARABASH IN SAME ISSUE ASSESSES IMPLICATIONS OF AMERICAN POLICY IN CONTEXT GENEVA CONFERENCE AND CONCLUDES THAT "QUESTION FACES DECISIVE STAGE CLOSER WE APPROACH END OF APRIL."

6. COMMENT: IT HAS BEEN SOME TIME SINCE WE WITNESSED DIRECT FRONTAL ASSAULT OF SUCH STRIDENCY AS MUHAMMAD MANSUR DIRECTED AGAINST US POLICY. LEVEL OF SOPHISTICATION DISMAL EVEN FOR MODEST STANDARDS NORMALLY TRUE OF DAMASCUS PRESS.
MURPHY

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